

REMARKS

In the outstanding office action dated 03/24/2005, claims 1-14 and 16-21 have been examined.

By way of the outstanding office action 1-14 and 16-21 stand objected because they include numerals inside parenthesis.

By way of the outstanding office action 1-14 and 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. first paragraph as being indefinite.

By way of the outstanding office action claims 1-10, 13, 14 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Birchenough et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,615,091) and Moore (US 5,877,961).

By way of the outstanding office action claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Birchenough et al (U.S. 6,615,091), Moore (US 5,877,961) and Lui et al (US 6,340,977).

By way of the outstanding office action claims 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Birchenough et al (U.S. 6,615,091), Moore (US 5,877,961) and Focke (US 6,193,051).

In response, claims 1-21, and new claims 22-35 has been added. Accordingly, claims 22-35 are now pending in the present application.

Claims 22-35 are Allowable.

The numeral inside parenthesis have been deleted as requested by the examiner.

New claim 22 encompasses the subject matter of previous claim 17 and also subject matter disclosed in the original application as filed (see for reference pages 5-8).

New claim 22 recites, in part, the creation of a configuration database, the creation of an operation database, and the creation of an orderly list of all and only the technical operations to be performed on the automatic machine to convert the automatic machine from the current first configuration to the desired second configuration by using the configuration database and the operation database.

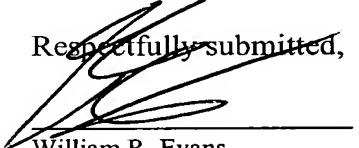
"To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art" MPEP § 2143.03. The cited references do not show or even suggest the creation of a configuration database, the creation of an operation database, and the creation of an orderly list of all and only the technical operations to be performed on the automatic machine to convert the automatic machine from the current first configuration to the desired second configuration by using the configuration database and the operation database. Accordingly, claim 22 is allowable over the cited references.

Claims 23-34 correspond to previous claims 2-5 and 7-14 and depend from claim 22. Accordingly, claims 23-24 are allowable.

Claim 35 encompasses subject matter disclosed in the original application as filed and depends from claim 22. Accordingly, claim 35 is allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that the claims as now appearing in this application are in good and proper form for allowance. A favorable action on reconsideration is respectfully solicited.


Respectfully submitted,

William R. Evans
c/o Ladas & Parry LLP
26 West 61st Street
New York, New York 10023
Reg. No. 25858
Tel. No. (212) 708-1930